

# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

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## Applied Photonics Award 2021: Fraunhofer IOF announces young researcher award

*Jena (Germany)*

**From April 1 to June 30, students and doctoral candidates can once again apply for the "Applied Photonics Award". The young researcher award by the Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Optics and Precision Engineering IOF honors theses that deal with innovative optical technologies for society and industry.**

Promoting highly qualified young talent and recognizing new ideas in the field of applied photonics at an early stage - this is the aim of the "Applied Photonics Award", the young researcher award by Fraunhofer IOF from Jena, Germany.

Prizes are awarded to a total of three final theses in the categories Bachelor, Master/Diploma and Dissertation. The winners will receive prize money and valuable career contacts in the photonics and optics industry. The prize money is staggered as follows:

Category A:	Best Bachelor's thesis (1,000 €)
Category B:	Best Master's thesis (2,000 €)
Category C:	Best dissertation (3,000 €)

### Who can apply?

All bachelor's, master's and diploma theses as well as dissertations (in German or English) that were submitted to a German university or college in 2020 or 2021 and are considered "passed" by the time the application is submitted are eligible.

The field of study is irrelevant: the range of former award winners extends from physics to optometry to horticultural sciences. The decisive factor for the award is that the work deals with innovative and commercially viable optical technologies for sustainable living and economic activity.

### Award ceremony at the international "Photonics Days"

The "Applied Photonics Award" will be presented in September 2021 at the "[Photonics Days](#)", an international career and networking event organized by Fraunhofer IOF and the [Max Planck School of Photonics](#). The event will be implemented as a hybrid format this year. The winners will have the opportunity to present their thesis in front

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#### Editorial Notes

**Desiree Haak** | Fraunhofer-Institute for Applied Optics and Precision Engineering IOF | Phone +49 3641 807-259 | Albert-Einstein-Straße 7 | 07745 Jena | Germany | [www.iof.fraunhofer.de](http://www.iof.fraunhofer.de) | [desiree.haak@iof.fraunhofer.de](mailto:desiree.haak@iof.fraunhofer.de)

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of an expert audience. There will also be the opportunity to network with representatives of high-ranking companies in the optics and photonics industry.

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This year, Fraunhofer IOF announces the "Applied Photonics Award" for the fourth time. But the tradition of the award goes back much longer: in 2018, it replaced the "Green Photonics" Young Scientist Award, which had been presented by the institute since 2012.

This year's "Applied Photonics Award" is again being presented with the kind support of the Association of German Engineers (VDI) and the companies Active Fiber Systems, JENOPTIK and TRUMPF.

Applications will be accepted until June 30, 2021 at [app@iof.fraunhofer.de](mailto:app@iof.fraunhofer.de).

**About Fraunhofer IOF**

Light is a versatile tool. Due to its diverse applications as well as excellent properties as an electromagnetic wave and as a light particle, it is a key technology for future challenges of the modern world.

With this in mind, the Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Optics and Precision Engineering IOF, based in Jena, Germany, conducts research into the development of light as a means of solving a wide variety of problems and application scenarios. The work of the institute, founded in 1992, focuses on application-oriented research into light generation, light guidance and light measurement.

The interdisciplinary pooling of the institute's own expertise in the fields of optics and precision engineering allows Fraunhofer IOF and its cooperating partner organizations to develop complex and unique photonic components and systems. Together with researchers from basic research and industry, innovative solutions are created that represent a technological advantage in science and industry and open up new fields of application for photonics.

**Further Information**

<https://www.applied-photonics-award.de/>



**Press Photos**

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Fig. 1: Logo of the "Applied Photonics Award" (Copyright: Fraunhofer IOF)



Fig. 2: With the "Applied Photonics Award" Fraunhofer IOF honors innovative theses in the field of applied photonics. (Copyright: Fraunhofer IOF)

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The **Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft**, headquartered in Germany, is the world's leading applied research organization. With its focus on developing key technologies that are vital for the future and enabling the commercial exploitation of this work by business and industry, Fraunhofer plays a central role in the innovation process. As a pioneer and catalyst for groundbreaking developments and scientific excellence, Fraunhofer helps shape society now and in the future. Founded in 1949, the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft currently operates 74 institutes and research institutions throughout Germany. The majority of the organization's 28,000 employees are qualified scientists and engineers, who work with an annual research budget of 2.8 billion euros. Of this sum, 2.3 billion euros is generated through contract research.